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Elizabeth A. Dudek

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*Elizabeth A. Dudek*

Signature

21 December 2004

Date of Signature

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of )  
Jean-Claude Lancien ) Examiner: D. Bochna  
on A SPACER FOR PUTTING INTO PLACE ) Group Art Unit: 3679  
A TUBULAR ELEMENT )  
Serial No.: 10/643,844 )  
Filing Date: August 19, 2003 ) (Docket No. 6980-0001)

Hartford, Connecticut – December 21, 2004

Mail Stop: Amendment  
Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450,  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

**and REQUEST FOR ONE-MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME**

S I R:

Applicant requests a one-month extension of time, to December 25, 2004,  
for filing a Response to the Office Action of August 25, 2004.

In response to the Office Action, please amend the above-identified  
application as follows:

**Amendments to the Abstract** begin on page 2.

**Remarks** begin on page 3.